

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 05002

EUR/RPM ALSO FOR AMBASSADOR BENNETT. SECDEF FOR ODDR&E,
OASD(I&L) AND (ISA). DA FOR DAMA-PPI. CSAF FOR RDI.
CNO FOR OP-098F.

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OCON, NATO, MILI
SUBJECT: NADREP DISCUSSION OF NATO DEFENSE PLANNING
INITIATIVES.

1. THIS MESSAGE SUMMARIZES COMMENTS MADE BY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY GENERAL FOR DEFENCE SUPPORT LABERGE AT THE NAD-
REPS MEETING ON 7 JUNE 1977 CONCERNING THE FOLLOW-UP TO
THE MINISTERIAL DECISION ON THE US INITIATIVES. LABERGE
BELIEVES THAT THE THREE SHORT-TERM MEASURES ARE WELL UNDER
WAY AT SHAPE AND EXPECTS A MEANINGFUL RESULT. WITH RESPECT
TO THE LONG-TERM PROGRAM, HE EXPECTS THE EWG TO HOLD ITS
FIRST MEETING ON THE INITIATIVES WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.
IN THE MEANTIME, THERE WILL BE SEVERAL MEETINGS OF DEPUTY
SECRETARY GENERAL PANSA'S SUPPORT GROUP. ITEMS CURRENTLY
BEING DISCUSSED ARE THE METHOD OF WORK, TERMS OF REFERENCE,
AND HOW TO AVOID CONFLICT WITH ON-GOING WORK IN EXISTING
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BODIES. LABERGE OUTLINED HIS APPROACH FOR HAVING TASK
FORCES REPORT TO THE EWG, AND EMPHASIZED THAT IT IS STILL
NOT CLEAR EXACTLY HOW NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE CON-
SIDERED OR LIAISON WITH EXISTING NATO BODIES CONDUCTED.

2. LABERGE SAID SHAPE HAS ESTABLISHED THREE TASK FORCES
AND IS ISSUING REQUESTS TO THE NATIONS FOR PERSONNEL TO

SUPPLEMENT THE SHAPE STAFF. EACH TASK FORCE WILL CONTAIN SIX TO EIGHT FULL TIME MEMBERS SUPPLIED BY THE NATIONS, ASSISTED BY THE SHAPE STAFF. LABERGE EMPHASIZED THAT THE NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE EXPECTED TO HELP WITH THE WORK OF THE TASK FORCE, NOT TO PROVIDE NATIONAL VIEWS. REAR ADMIRAL NICHOLSON HAS BEEN NAMED TO HEAD THE READINESS TASK FORCE, DR. STONEY (CONSULTANT TO SACEUR) HAS BEEN NAMED TO HEAD THE C3 TASK FORCE, AND REAR ADMIRAL PRICE HAS BEEN NAMED TO HEAD THE AIR DEFENSE TASK FORCE. LIEUTENANT GENERAL DOMROESE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HARMONIZATION OF THE SHAPE PROGRAM. LABERGE WAS ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT GENERAL DOMROESE HAD SUGGESTED THAT ALL REQUIREMENTS BE ASSIGNED PRIORITIES.

3. LABERGE ALSO OUTLINED HIS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CONSUMER LOGISTICS AND RATIONALIZATION/STANDARDIZATION/INTER-OPERABILITY. HE INTENDS TO SET UP TWO TASK FORCES OF THREE OR FOUR PERSONS EACH TO WORK FULL TIME, SUPPLEMENTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF AS NEEDED. HE WILL SELECT TASK FORCE MEMBERS WHO UNDERSTAND GOVERNMENT PROCESSES AND HOW TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAMS. HE HAS NOT YET PICKED THE LEADERS OF HIS TASK FORCES. HE WILL USE THE AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR CONSUMER LOGISTICS (AC/300) AS A SOUNDING BOARD FOR THE WORK OF HIS TASK FORCES AND THE NADREP FORUM AS A SOUNDING BOARD FOR THE RATIONALIZATION EFFORT. NEITHER GROUP WOULD HAVE APPROVAL AUTHORITY. AGAIN, HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD BE MADE AT THE EWG LEVEL. THE NADREPS WOULD MEET EVERY TWO WEEKS TO HEAR PROGRESS REPORTS FROM HIS TASK FORCES AS ONE OF THE AGENDA

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ITEMS. HE HOPES TO ISSUE A CLEAR PROPOSAL FOR HIS AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY NEXT WEEK. LABERGE WILL INVITE SHAPE AND SACLANT REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE NEXT NADREP MEETING TO REPORT ON THEIR CURRENT STATUS. HE ALSO INTENDS TO VISIT SHAPE PROMPTLY TO ASSURE FULL COORDINATION.

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